MMMonVHF Newsletter no. 1/ WEEK 23 2012

Hallo dear MMMonVHF friends,

please find below our latest NEWSLETTER from the VHF-DX-Portal
"Make More Miles on VHF" (www.MMMonVHF.de), dated 2012-06-07
We try to distribute our Newsletter, once a week on thursday;
if any special activity will make it necessary
we will inform you with Breaking News or a Special NL-Edition.
For further details please be so kind and look at our "News"-page
http://www.mmmonvhf.de/latest.php - you are welcome for any
input and we hope you will enjoy the VHF-DX-Portal MMMonVHF!

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Latest NEWS and INFO for the NEWSLETTER
MMMonVHF The VHF-DX-Portal
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A Humanitarian Aid Mission: J52EME QRV on EME from Guinea Bissau.

In autumn 2011 the first announcement was communicated by Lucio I3LDP, on
behalf of the Verona DX Team: They were planning for a 144 EME activity from J5
Guinea Bissau, scheduled for March/April 2012. And so it came: In the early
morning of 23 March 2012 the team and equipment departed from Bologna airport
and travelled via Lisbon to Bissau.
The DXpedition location was the Cumura Mission, where a Franciscan Friar, who is
an OM and member of A.R.I. Verona, offered his assistance. Father Gianfranco
Gottardi has worked for nearly 20 years in several missions in Guinea Bissau where
his presence was requested by the Bishop of Bissau. He was active on HF from these
missions with the call signs J54OFM, J52OFM and J59OFM. The OFM suffix standing
for Order Friars Minor, which refers to St. Francis.
The DXpedition teamï¿½s goal was also to help Father Gianfranco with their work: All
the money received with QSL cards is already or will be donated to the mission.
During the stay also some work was planned, such as the creation of a LAN in the
Hospital of Cumura and the connection to the Leper Hospital. Also fixing and
improving the mains power system which then worked only for a few hours a day
for the hospital was on the to-do list. Work at the generators was also planned so
that for the periods of power outage the 24V batteries would be charged and ready
for emergency services, such as incubators and medical equipment.

Lucio I3LDP sent a detailed report: ï¿½Immediately after arrival to the Cumura Mission
in Guinea Bissau, we started assembling the two 8 el. yagis, cross polarized. This was
a tough job as we had to work in a dreadful heat of 40ï¿½ C! After finishing the
assembly of the structure, we added adapters, cables and an aiming system taken
from an old telescope. The relay H/V DowKey 402A was placed before the excellent
preamp donated by Pete WA2ODO (gain 23.9 dB and noise figure 0.14 dB). Cables
were Ecoflex 10 for the connections to the antennas and 18 m of Ecoflex 15 for
connecting the PA type Colibri lent to us by Nico of ITB, exceptional for low size and
weight, only 7 kg with 1000 W out. RTX type IC-7000 and home-made sequencer
completed the setup.
We placed the antenna system on top of a container, near the place where we had
installed the HF equipment. When the Moon rose we were ready to go, but we
immediately realized that the place was wrong; big noise and even worse: increasing
SWR when the antenna was elevated. So we dismantled everything, placed antenna
and support on a tractor and went to a field near the house of volunteers of Cumura
Mission. Characteristics of that location were: open field with some papaya trees,
big mango trees on the north side and a big mango tree in direction 270ï¿½. To the
East the situation was even worse: a house and very high trees made us see the
moon only at elevations greater than 15/20ï¿½. We had no decent cover.

This was not quite a classic DXpedition working field-day style. We had a pool, air conditioning, and an ï¿½a la carteï¿½ restaurant: Our accommodation was named the "Sheraton Hotel", that instead of having 4 **** had 4ï¿½mangoes: some rooms were derived from an old structure that was part of the old hospital, and here we transformed the old reception into a kitchen and a dining room.

We accepted these conditions and we placed all the antennas there, for 144, 432 and 50 MHz. First equipment turn-on was on the 25th March. As we had a temporarily internet connection we could see that I3MEK was calling on 144,138 MHz. Shortly after we lost the connection, but we went on that frequency, pointed antenna to the moon and soon we decoded his CQ at -22dB with V pol. After some calls we finally got OOOs at 1913Z at -20, then RRRs and 73s. WE HAD COMPLETED OUR FIRST EME QSO! At last J52EME was alive. We toasted, then closed the station because we had once again lost electric power. Next day we recovered a 4kW generator and placed it near the border of the field, with the line fully extended. At moon-rise we has some problems first, having to wait until 20ï¿½ elevation. So unfortunately the window towards JA, ZL, VK soon closed. We made only one JA station.

During the entire DXpedition we kept having a lot of problems, particularly with electric power. Also fuel was very difficult to get, a mango fell on the head of one of us who found out this painful way how heavy and hard it was, permanently fighting red ants (see left the visitors on the note book) and also defensive actions against mosquitoes.
If you print the moon graphs of those days, you will understand the problems of moon pointing near the equator. The Moon-rise was at az. 68ï¿½, this increased till 85ï¿½, then came back till az. 15ï¿½, from which it went to az. 340ï¿½ in 6 minutes, remaining at el. 88ï¿½. The following day was different: Moon-rise at az. 78ï¿½ going to 82ï¿½, then moving quickly, in 10 minutes, to az. 170ï¿½ where it remained without change for 18 minutes, then a quick movement, in 5 minutes, to az. 230ï¿½. Stunning! At least for someone who is accustomed to see it rise in the east and set in the west, passing by south.

We copied good signals most of the time, with a reasonable pile-up, but very often we got high noise and big birdies coming from the East, direction airport. This then obliged us to change QRG and telephone to Renato I3EJ or Mario I3MEK asking to announce the frequency change on the logger. At the end of the activity we had more than 220 QSOs in the log, and had an excellent feeling having made so many EME stations like us happy.

On 430 MHz we had terrible problems with noise, although the preamp and our 18 el. LFA home-made worked fine, with the PA Colibri by Nico which regularly put out 450 W. Doppler was very high and drifting, so decoding was not easy, even when the signals were very strong. We ended up with just 6 QSOs and we sure did our best. More wasnï¿½t meant to be.
On 50 MHz we had some skeds with American stations, but we could only see the trace of Lance W7GJ, in JT65A. Unfortunately the very high trees interfered with moon-set, and we had only a 5 el. LFA. We will contact Lance to find out whether he heard all the info from us.
Luckily we had a big ES activity towards EA and CT on 50 MHz. Sometimes we had to to ask the callers to leave us space in the pile-up in order to find other countries. So we completed with CN, 7X, F, IS0, IT9, DL, 9H, SV9, I, EA6, EA9, CU2, LZ.

This is the conclusion of the first EME DXpedition for the Verona DX Team, which gave us a lot of experience and lessons learned that will be useful for the next radio and humanitarian expedition, since we intend to go on in this way: bringing, in addition to our willingness to do radio, the help necessary in many underdeveloped countries.
After our return we received regards from a Franciscan Noun, Sister Stefania, who

had become used to see our antennas pointing up: ï¿½Hello, happy Easter to you. Here
all is well, but every night the moon weeps because it does not see you anymore. An
embrace to all of you, hoping to see you again. Peace and Good. Sister Stefaniaï¿½

Now also in Guinea Bissau and in the Cumura Hospital
hangs the pennant of ARI Verona that we are proud to
represent; and our thanks to all that helped us and sent
donations. Our work continues, and every donation we
receive from you will be sent to Father Gianfranco who
will use it for works of charity in a country where red
earth is king and permeates everything.

All donations, already arrived or future ones, will go to the Cumura Mission. I am
asking everybody here, whether having made a QSO or not, to make a donation. For
donating money, please go to http://www.ari.verona.it/veronadxteam/en/ Beyond
helping the mission, you will give a deserved satisfaction to the team who worked
also for giving you this DX.ï¿½

73, Lucio I3LDP
http://www.ari.verona.it/veronadxteam/

SOURCE: The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter by DF2ZC

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HOT 144 MHz MS & EME DX-PEDITION NEWS - Pse do use:
http://www.mmmonvhf.de/latest.php
and use the FILTER for your personal wishes!
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** DXCC:9A : Croatia ; square JN74; start 2012-06-07 **

IOCA chasers attention...

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croatian island Zeca(CI-146,EU-136) activity start 07.06.2012. abt 09:00 UTC till dusk
freq. 7030 CW,7070 SSB,10120 CW,14050 CW +-QRM
73...

SOURCE: tnx to Kiko 9A4WY/p direct to MMMonVHF

** DXCC: K: USA ; square EM31; start 2012-06-09 **

K5QE in ARRL June VHF Contest

Hello to everyone in the EME community. This year, the ARRL June VHF Contest
will be held June 9th and 10th. We want to work as many EME stations on 2M AND
432 as possible to increase our grid count. Please help us with this event by
working us on JT65b or CW. Thank you very much. I understand that the EU contests
ban EME contacts, but that is NOT the case with the ARRL contests, so your contact
is very important to us. Hence, I would really appreciate the EME stations making
the effort to work me, as your contact will certainly be a rare grid for our log.
 As usual, we will be operating 2M on 144.142MHz Second sequence. We will be running
QRO with 8 x 18&#65533;s and ask that you try to work us if you see us during the contest.
Our only moonrise is 0545Z on Sunday. If we see several EME callers, we will try

to work the Eastern EU stations first before they have moonset. If you see us working
another station, PLEASE keep calling. That allows us to decode your call while we
are finishing up a QSO with another operator. WE will use "contest style" messages
and will not send 73s, just to save time. If you only operate on CW, please call
us on CW. If we hear a CW caller, we will switch to CW and work you on CW as soon
as possible. Even if you don't see us calling CQ, you can call us on 144.142MHz OR
432.042MHz. If we see you, we will respond as soon as we can. We have MAP65-IQ
running this year, so we should be able to see more callers. If we see you, we will
respond as soon as possible, so don't give up....please keep calling.
Because we are a Multi-Multi station, we will be watching the N0UK EME-1 logger,
we just can&#65533;t post to these pages. If you see us, please spot us on the N0UK EME-1 logger.
If you are not in the contest, you can post freely to the loggers. So, you can talk to us,
we just can't talk back.If you don&#65533;t see us on 144.142MHz or 432.070MHz, please check back
later because we may just be doing a bit of Search & Pounce or waiting for the tropo station
to finish a QSO.

Good luck to all in the contest and we hope to see you there. Thank you.

Please note my new email address....k5qe@k5qe.com. Thank you.

SOURCE: Marshall, K5QE - EM31cj
 www.k5qe.com
 East Texas, USA

** DXCC: VP9I: Bermuda ; square FM72; start 2012-07-13 **

A team consistant of Dit, DF7KF, Angelo, DM1AC and Joe, DL9MS
are going to be qrv from Bermuda, FM72OH in July on 144 MHZ via EME
First Infos about the Bermuda Triangel Expedition
to FM72oh

RIG on 144 MHz: xp28 by 7kf, eme power and lna
Call shall be DF7KF/VP9 or possible a special licens call

QSL: only direct to Joe, DL9MS (no QSL via buro!)

SOURCE: to to Joe, DL9MS, direct to MMMonVHF

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Latest V/U/SHF DX-PEDITION NEWS and EVENTS - Pse do use:
http://www.mmmonvhf.de/latest.php
and use the FILTER for your personal wishes!
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** DXCC: SP : Poland ; square JO80 **

Hello everyone,

Because of the Global Astronomy Month 2012, a special call sign
SN2012GAM appear on the EME bands. We are going to work on European EME
Contest on 13cm. We are cordially invite you to take a QSO with this
special call sign, which will working form the EME Group Klodzko
(SP6OPN) station located in Poland.

73, vy
SP6JLW (Andy), SP3QFE (Armi)
and other operators of the EME Group in Klodzko (JO80jk).

SOURCE: Andrej, SP6JLW to MoonNet 2012-04-28

** DXCC: I: Italy; square JN56; start 2012-06-09 **

Steffen DD0VF qrv from JN56RM as IN3/DD0VF in June

This year some mountain hiking in South Tyrol again.
I'll be QRV in the morning and evening for MS. Reasonable
good take off from QTF 40-60 and 180-290 (G/GW shall work
with some offset to south).
Rig: only 50W, 4 or 7el (depending on space of balkony)

I could be also QRV from abt 2500m asl for a few hours
(possible calls IN3/DD0VF, IW3/DD0VF, HB9/DD0VF)

Let me know if you still need JN56.

SOURCE: tnx to Steffen direct to MMMonVHF

** DXCC: A5: Bhutan; square ???; start 2012-06-06 **

JA1JQY (A52JY), JK1EBA (A52BA), JA3MCA (A52MA), JA1KJW (A52KJ), and
JA8VE (A52VE) will be QRV in SSB/CW/RTTY on 160m-6m from a hotel at
3000m altitude in the capital Thimpu from Jun 6-14. A beacon will be
set up to run continuously on 50.125 MHz. QSLs via homecalls.

SOURCE: DXNL 1783 - Jun 6, 2012

** DXCC: VP2M: Monserat; square ????; start 2012-06-09 **

John,KB4CRT (SMIRK 3932), announced to become active as VP2MRT from
Gingerbread Hill in St. Peters Parish (NA-103, WLOTA 1475, Loc FK86VS)
working in SSB, some CW and maybe also PSK on 80m-2m from Jun 6-12. He
plans to join the upcoming "ARRL June VHF QSO Party" (Jun 9-11), too.
John will listen particularly for AS and OC.
Unfortunately QSLs only direct via KB4CRT, LoTW.
Graham,M0AEP, goes to Montserrat (NA-103) as well and will sign VP2MDD
in SSB and CW with a focus on 12m/10m/6m between June 7 and August 6.
QSL via homecall.

SOURCE: DXNL 1783 - Jun 6, 2012

** DXCC: W: USA; square EN91; start 2012-06-09 **

Andy,N8OFS (SMIRK 6737), will take part in the ARRL June VHF QSO Party
working portable (WW Loc EN91) in FM on 52.525 MHz.
QSLs unfortunately only direct or via eQSL.
Mike,W2GR, will use the special callsign N2W in CW, SSB and RTTY on
40m-10m from Jun 10-24. The occasion is the first attempt to cross the
Niagara Falls on a rope by Nik Wallenda on June 15. QSL via W2GR.

SOURCE: DXNL 1783 - Jun 6, 2012

** DXCC: CO: Cuba; square ????; start 2012-06-09 **

The "Radio Club Las Tunas" wil join the ARRL June VHF QSO Party in the
"limited multi operator" class signing T48K (Loc FL10mw) on Jun 9-11.
On 6m they will use a 5-ele-antenna by Tonna with 100 watts and on 2m
they will run 50 watts into a homebrew 9-ele-quad. They hope for a
first contact between Las Tunas and USA. QSL via DK1WI.
See also: http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf-qso-party

SOURCE: DXNL 1783 - Jun 6, 2012

** DXCC: OH: Finland; square KP33; start 2012-06-21 **

Markku, OH8UV, will be QRV on 50 MHz as OH7UV from KP23 with 100W in 4 el.

SOURCE: Markku, OH8UV, direct to MMMonVHF

** DXCC: D6: Comoros; start 2012-08-01 **

HF and 6m Activity planed as D64K (LH81PJ)

We will have a station dedicated to 6m with a K3, ACOM1000 and long yagi.

Dates to be confirmed.

Operators are: C31CT/EA3QS, IW3SQY, IZ4AKS, IZ8GCE, SP3DOI, IV3DSH, EA3AKY

Expedition website: www.d64k.com

SOURCE: Josep EA3AKY direct to MMMonVHF

** DXCC: VU: India; square ????; start 2012-05-23 **

Until July 8th, Taj, VU2DJ, Sabu, VU2ELJ, Sree, VU2OB, Prabin,
VU2POL, Peeter, VU2PJP, Murali, VU2FWW, Thomas, VU2VJT, Sunil,
VU2ATB, Ashraf, VU3MTY, Mujeeb, VU3WII and Sanal, VU3SIO, will
activate the special call sign 8T1M from 160 - 2 Meter in CW, SSB,
PSK, RTTY, FM and D-STAR. QSL via VU2MLQ.
http://www.malabarradiohams.org/

** DEADLINE for your NEWS input to MMMonVHF**

... for your News (pse use: http://www.mmmonvhf.de/newsuser.php)
to the next MMMonVHF Newsletter will be next wednesday 22.00 UTC ...

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The VHF-DX-Portal MMMonVHF - Newsletter Credits & Info
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Our Newsletter is compiled from the input of the USERS of the
VHF-DX-Portal MMMonVHF and as well by a lot of free usable
HF-V-U-SHF-Info-Sources (named as SOURCE at the NEWS) and chats
like ON4KST-, RU-VHF-DX-Net, EA-V-U-SHF-Chat, N0UK-Chat and others.

** Many thanks to all our USERS who did send us info and news **

Wherever we found the info we always indicate the source of the
info. If you get knowledge of an expedition, which is NOT listed
at our VHF-DX-Portal MMMonVHF or if you have additional info for
an expedition, PLEASE be so kind and send us this info at:

** www.mmmonvhf.de/newsuser.php or www.mmmonvhf.de/contact.php **

The MMMonVHF-Team is always trying to spread any expedition info
as much up-to-date and reliable as possible and as long as the
info does not violate with our MMMonVHF-Policy ...

Have a lot of fun and enjoy the VHF-DX-Portal MMMonVHF!

73 de Lins PA3CMC and Frank, PA4EME
on behalf of the MMMonVHF-Team

DG2KBC DK3XT DK5EW DK5YA DL8EBW HA5CRX
IV3NDC OZ1LPR PA2DW PA3BIY PA3CMC & PA4EME